

415-417 Eleventh St. (Commercial Buildings)
(Staley's Hong Kong Exchange & Regency Liquors)
Washington
District of Columbia

HABS No. DC-478

HABS
DC,
WASH,
262-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

STATE District of Columbia		COUNTY	TOWN OR VICINITY Washington
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) 415-417 Eleventh St. (Commercial Buildings)			HABS NO. DC-478
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE Staley's Hong Kong Exchange/Regency Liquors (415-417 respectively)			
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) 415-417 Eleventh Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., Square 348, Lot 810.			
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE) c. 1858 (415) c. (417) (see attached)		ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE) unknown	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) These commercial buildings are distinguished by denticulated cornices and decorative window hoods. They are an integral element in this Eleventh Street block and contribute to the cohesive nature of the block. They are located in the Pennsylvania Avenue Historic District.			
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE)			
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Brick and frame; probably brick foundations.			
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) 417 11th Street is three bays wide and four stories tall. 415 11th Street is an unusual narrow structure, one bay wide and three stories tall. Total dimensions are 51'9" x 100'			
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (Lot 810 contains two structures). 415 Eleventh Street is a three story, one bay wide brick building. Second and third story windows have stone lintels with bullseye corner blocks and stone sills. The cornice is molded and of metal. 417 Eleventh Street is three bays wide and three stories tall. The first floor moderne storefront (see attached)			
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED) 417 Eleventh Street has been closed for quite a period due to a fire, and it is unknown when it will be available for inspection, according to owners (1001 Pennsylvania Assoc.) 415 Eleventh Street is a narrow structure with north-south partitions in the center, dividing retail show space from storage space. Upper floors accessible from 417 11th Street			
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES Building Permits cited include the following: (see attached)			
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE 415 Eleventh Street is currently occupied on the first floor by a retail jewelry store. It is fairly run-down. 417 11th St. is occupied by a liquor store.			
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE 417 Eleventh Street functioned as a saloon/hotel until approximately 1908. The first floor then became a lunchroom. 415 Eleventh Street functioned as an entrance to upper floors of 417 since c. 1905. See also DC-493 (SQUARE 348) for additional information.			
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDE LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) District of Columbia Recorder of Deeds; District of Columbia General Assessment Records Tax Records, and Building Permits, National Archives; Baist's Atlas of Washington, Martin Luther King Library, Washingtoniana Room, Washington, D.C.			
COMPILER, AFFILIATION W.F. Hunter, Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation			DATE February 1981

Date of Construction (cont'd)

Construction of these structures prior to 1870 eliminates the possibility of verifying precise construction dates. Investigation of Tax Records for the lot shows an increase for improvements at 417 Eleventh Street between 1850 and 1854, with the improvement for 1854 entered in red ink, indicating new construction. (1850-lot \$1292 improvements \$1800; 1854-lot \$2044 improvements \$4000). In 1860, another improvement value is entered in red ink, raising to \$4500 the value, probably indicating a major addition. Records for 415 Eleventh Street show no improvements in 1850, but in 1858 the improvement value is noted in red ink at \$2200 (lot-\$1127).

Exterior Features of Note (cont'd)

has two steel and glass octagonally-shaped show windows with the principle entrance centered between them and a secondary entrance to the upper floors offset left. A vertical sign saying "liquor" is over the principle entrance. Second and third story windows have projecting sills and molded hoods. Windows are six-over-six double hung sash.

The cornice is denticulated with a flat frieze ending just above the third story hoods. An iron fire escape is located over the north (left) and center bays.

Major Alterations and Additions (cont'd)

3/11/92	#1667	- (at 417) build show window and brick addition, 8' x 30' with tin roof; one story.
7/16/97	#71	- (at 415) build show window.
10/8/00	#569	- Lower present floor (first) 2'9" so as to be about 7" above sidewalk; to excavate passageway in present cellar so as to give head room; take out present show window and put in flat front.
6/5/06	#3362	- Lay gravel walk in backyard; brick wall fence.
7/7/06	#62½	- (at 415) used as entrance to 417- remove show window and repair cornice where window was removed; put in light wooden arch over opening 7'6" wide.
3/12/08	#2660	- (at 415) new floor 7½' x 38'; cut window 4'x 5' and door 3' x 7', not in party wall.
3/13/18	#2415	- erect show window with iron beams.
8/14/36	#194366-	Architect A Lankford; build one story addition (brick) with tin roof, eight feet wide with concrete floor.
10/28/36	#196590-	Remove present show window and erect new; Designer W. Anderson, Contractor Lee Turner.
1/8/37	#200123-	Hang new door and face building with structural glass; DiBlasi contractor and designer (also owner).